



**FLYING:** Samantha Howe (right) chases down the pack during the orienteering festival on the weekend.

# Orienteers find path to success at festival

## ORIENTEERING

NORTHERN Tablelands orienteer Brent Gregory topped the men's open competition at the state festival on Monday, finishing the 3.8km Banalasta course in a time of 61.34.

Gregory beat his nearest rival, fellow local Alex Eberli, by almost 18 minutes to take out the event.

He wasn't the only Northern Tablelands representative to perform well on day three of the festival.

New club member Bruce

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Meder also topped the men's 60s age group, beating his closest rival by nearly 10 minutes.

Felicity Barker-Smith finished second in the women's 18s and over class, completing the five kilometre course in a time of 78.59, while Boahdan Gregory came first in the six kilometre 21s and over section.

The results come after a successful day two for local

orienteers at the Mount Brown course on Sunday.

Llyod Barker-Smith and Boahdan Gregory ended the men's 21s and over class in second and third position respectively.

Felicity Barker-Smith also gave a glimpse of things to come with first place in the women's 18s and over group.

Northern Tablelands Orienteering Club publicity officer Rowena Childs said the results were a fantastic achievement.

"They've gone up against people from right across

NSW, Queensland and also the ACT, which shows our orienteers are in great shape," she said.

Childs said the club had been widely praised for their running of the three-day festival.

"We had quite a few complimentary comments about the organisation of the event and how they enjoyed orienteering in the beautiful bush and granite areas that we have around Armidale.

"So that's probably why it's a favourite venue and people are willing to travel here."